

To the Members of the California State Assembly:

I am signing Assembly Bill 2100, legislation that will provide a new model of support for persons with severe developmental disabilities who wish to live in California's communities. This legislation builds upon the innovative services created by the Lanterman Developmental Disabilities Services Act and the 1999 United States Supreme Court's Olmstead decision, which calls for the support and integration of persons with disabilities in their homes and communities rather than institutions.

Consistent with the Olmstead decision, this legislation will provide another alternative that will better enable individuals to live in more integrated settings by expanding the range and availability of appropriate community-based placements. AB 2100 allows for the development of housing dedicated to persons with developmental disabilities and authorizes three San Francisco Bay Area regional centers to provide lease payments to establish a permanent stock of stable housing. This pilot program will establish a family teaching model that will serve up to three persons with developmental disabilities in family settings.

California has systematically and continually developed integrated community-based services and supports for persons with developmental disabilities. It is time to take the next step and implement a new model capable of providing services to individuals whose only other previous option had been a state run developmental center. Therefore, it is with great enthusiasm that I am signing AB 2100.

Sincerely,

Arnold Schwarzenegger